

navigator*

Friday, May 27th

A Guide for Advocates

The following data is from a survey conducted entirely before the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas on May 24th, 2022.



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Key Takeaways:

- When presented with a range of recent news items, the shooting in Buffalo and the leak of the draft decision of *Roe v. Wade* are the two Americans say are the biggest deal to them personally.
- A majority say inflation is one of their top four most important issues and a quarter say it is their number one issue; only a quarter see Biden and Congress focused on it and Republicans hold an 8-point trust advantage.
- Americans report feeling frustrated, uneasy, and angry about politics; among those who feel “hopeful” or “engaged and interested in taking action,” abortion is their top priority.

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Americans Feel the Draft Decision on *Roe* and the Mass Shooting in Buffalo Are the Biggest Deals for Them Personally

Democrats are more likely to rate news on the *Roe* draft decision, recent mass shootings, and coronavirus news as “very big deals” to them than Republicans by at least 15+ point margins.

Below is a list of stories that have been in the news lately. Different people care about some stories more than others. Please rate each story on this list from zero to 10 using the following scale. You can pick any number from 0 to 10, where 10 means it is a big deal to you personally and 0 means it's not a big deal at all.

	Very big deal (9-10)	Somewhat big deal (6-8)	Not a big deal (0-5)	Total Very Big Deal						% hearing a lot about item	
				Dem	Ind	Rep	Black	Hisp.	White		AAPI
The leaked draft decision from the Supreme Court on <i>Roe v. Wade</i> that would overturn the ruling that protects the right to an abortion	41	35	24	51	22	35	42	47	41	40	49
The mass shooting that targeted Black Americans in a grocery store in Buffalo, New York	39	36	25	49	28	29	58	52	34	26	50
The Federal Reserve raising interest rates	35	41	24	36	27	36	38	36	34	38	26
The United States hitting one million deaths from the coronavirus pandemic	35	34	31	49	25	22	50	49	31	27	35
The fall of the Ukrainian city of Mariupol to Russian forces	32	40	28	40	22	25	34	46	30	24	35
A shortage of baby formula in the United States	34	35	31	34	27	35	47	44	30	23	62
A gunman attacking a Taiwanese church in Laguna Woods, California	29	37	33	39	21	21	43	48	25	20	22
The potential for a new surge in coronavirus cases in the United States following rising cases in Europe and China	31	36	34	42	28	19	42	40	27	35	27

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A Majority of Americans Rank Inflation as a Top Four Issue, While Just a Quarter Say Biden and Congress Are Focused on It

There is a 28-point gap between the share who feel Biden and Congress are focused on inflation (26%) and who want them to be (54%).

- Since early May prior to the leaked draft decision, there has also been an 11-point increase in the share who say abortion is a top issue (from 10% to 21%), and a 23-point increase in the share who say Biden and Congress are most focused on it (from 12% to 35%).

Select the top four issues that you feel are most important for President Joe Biden and Congress to focus on.

		May 9 th	May 2 nd
Inflation	54%	53	49
Jobs and the economy	50	51	51
Nat. security & foreign policy, inc. Ukraine	31	31	39
The coronavirus pandemic	29	23	25
Immigration	27	28	30
Health care	25	31	27
Social Security and Medicare	25	25	30
Corruption in government	25	24	25
Climate change and the environment	24	24	25
Crime	23	22	23
Abortion	21	19	10
Voting rights	17	18	12
Education	13	12	13

Which of these issues do you feel President Joe Biden and Congress are actually most focused on?

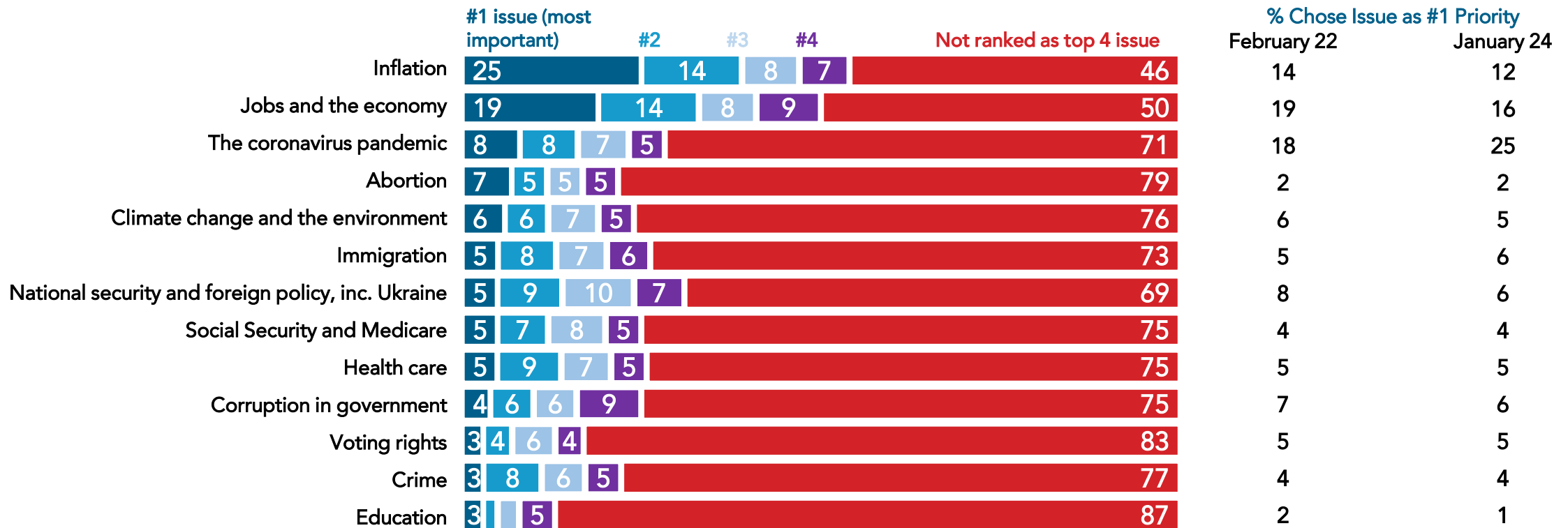
		May 9 th	May 2 nd
Nat. security & foreign policy, inc. Ukraine	41%	40	45
The coronavirus pandemic	39	43	39
Abortion	35	29	12
Climate change and the environment	28	33	33
Inflation	26	24	23
Jobs and the economy	26	30	26
Immigration	19	15	19
Voting rights	18	18	20
Health care	14	15	12
Crime	12	9	11
Social Security and Medicare	10	10	13
Corruption in government	10	9	10
Education	8	7	10

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Inflation Is Americans' Top Priority, Followed By Jobs and the Economy With Other Issues Ranking Notably Lower

There has been an 11-point increase since February in the share who say inflation is their number one issue (from 14% to 25%) while there has been a 10-point decline in the share saying the pandemic is their number one issue (from 18% to 8%).

Select the top four issues that you feel are most important for President Joe Biden and Congress to focus on. [If choice in previous] Below are the items you chose in the previous question. Please rank them in order of importance for President Biden and Congress to focus on, with 1 being the most important.



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While Biden and Democrats Are More Trusted on a Range of Issues, Republicans Have an Edge on Top Two Priorities

The Republican Party is more trusted on inflation (net +8) and jobs and the economy (+3), which remain Americans' top two issues; Biden and Democrats are more trusted on issues including the pandemic (net +10), health care (+6), and Social Security/Medicare (+8).

Below is a list of issues. Please indicate who you trust more to handle each one.

Issue	Trust			Net Biden and the Democratic Party								
	Biden and the Democratic Party	Don't know	The Republican Party	Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	Black	Hisp.	White	AAPI	% Top Issue
The coronavirus pandemic	48	14	38	+10	+78	0	-65	+70	+13	-3	+28	29
Climate change and the environment	47	19	34	+13	+73	+1	-51	+64	+17	+3	+32	24
Health care	46	14	40	+6	+75	+2	-71	+65	+12	-7	+24	25
Social Security and Medicare	46	16	38	+8	+73	-4	-62	+65	+3	-2	+15	25
Voting rights	45	15	40	+5	+74	-3	-71	+63	+16	-7	+15	17
Abortion	45	17	38	+7	+71	-5	-62	+55	+13	-4	+29	21
Education	44	17	39	+5	+69	0	-67	+64	+4	-7	+27	13
Jobs and the economy	42	13	45	-3	+67	-16	-80	+57	+6	-15	-2	50
Natl. security and foreign policy, incl. Ukraine	41	16	43	-2	+63	-8	-75	+50	+1	-13	+8	31
Immigration	40	15	45	-5	+61	-21	-76	+48	+4	-16	+6	27
Corruption in government	40	22	38	+2	+64	-10	-65	+55	+1	-9	+22	25
Inflation	39	14	47	-8	+58	-17	-79	+55	-2	-20	-4	54
Crime	38	17	45	-7	+56	-21	-77	+56	-10	-19	-3	23

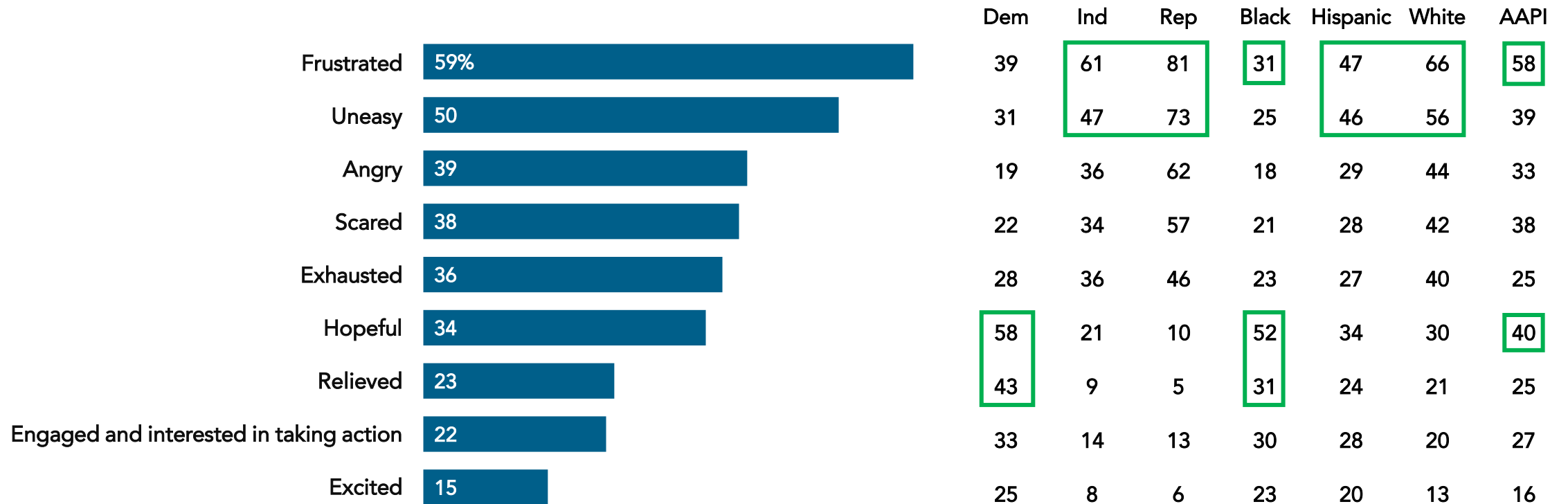
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Americans Report Feeling “Frustrated,” “Uneasy,” and “Angry” About Current Politics

Six in ten independents feel “frustrated” with politics (61%).

- At the same time, Democrats (58%), Black Americans (52%), and AAPI Americans (40%) are most likely to feel “hopeful” about politics since Biden was elected.

Below are some emotions people feel about politics. Please select ALL that you have felt about politics since Biden was elected.



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Thinking of Their Emotions and Politics, Americans Still Place Inflation as Their Top Concern

For those feeling positive emotions about politics, those who are “hopeful” (41%), “relieved” (43%), “engaged and interested in taking action”* (42%), and “excited” (35%) say abortion is a top issue.

Thinking more about your emotions as they relate to politics...select up to four issues that have made you more interested in paying closer attention to what’s going on in the country today.

		Frustrated	Uneasy	Angry	Scared	Exhausted	Hopeful	Relieved	Engaged...*	Excited
Inflation	53%	63	66	65	61	57	41	41	39	35
Jobs and the economy	37	42	44	44	42	40	26	30	35	31
Abortion	30	29	27	25	29	31	41	43	42	35
National security and foreign policy, inc. Ukraine	30	33	35	33	29	32	35	38	36	28
The coronavirus pandemic	30	25	24	18	24	26	43	46	35	41
Immigration	27	38	39	44	38	31	12	12	22	12
Corruption in government	25	32	33	38	34	34	20	21	23	20
Crime	23	25	25	26	27	26	20	13	20	21
Social Security and Medicare	22	21	20	21	20	17	25	24	25	26
Health care	20	17	15	15	18	20	26	24	23	29
Climate change and the environment	20	15	13	12	16	20	33	37	30	36
Voting rights	19	18	16	17	16	20	29	31	33	30
Education	12	10	12	13	13	13	15	11	13	17

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*Full text: “Engaged and interested in taking action.”

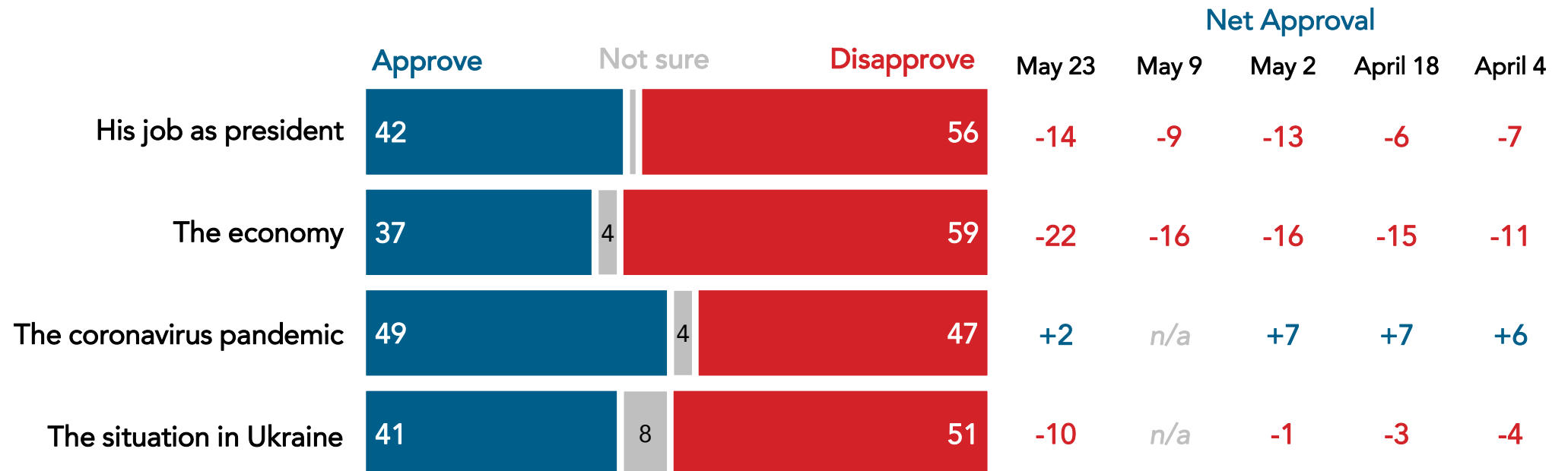
Nationwide survey of 998 registered voters conducted May 19-May 23, 2022.

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Biden's Approval Ratings See Decline in Most Recent Survey

Biden has seen a worsening of his approval ratings on a range of issues since May 2nd: his economic approval has declined by 6 points (from -16 to -22) and his approval on his handling of the situation in Ukraine has declined by 9 points (from -1 to -10).

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling...



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One in Ten Americans Report Voting for Biden in 2020, But Disapprove of His Handling of the Economy

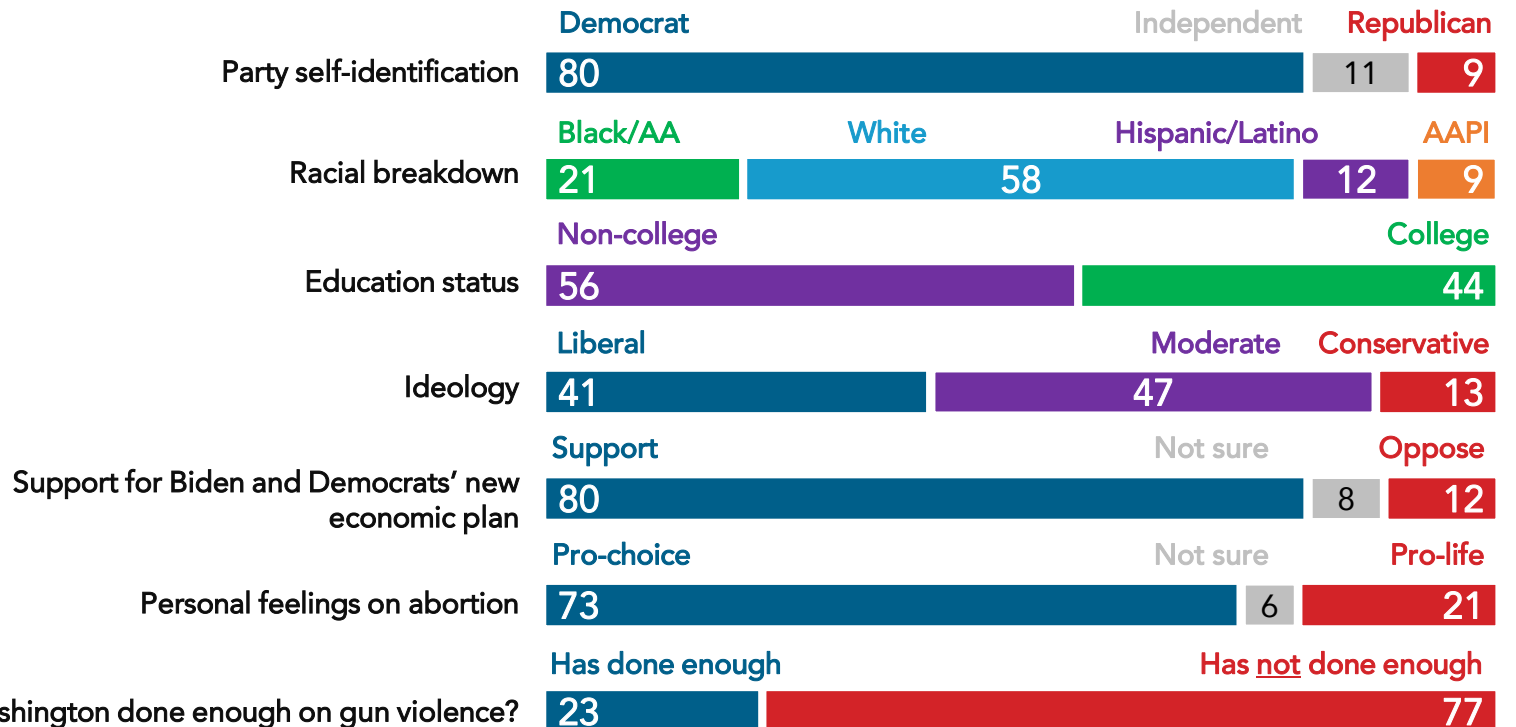
The 12% of Americans who report voting for Biden in 2020 but now disapprove of his handling of the economy are overwhelmingly Democrats (80%), are more likely to be non-college educated (56%), and identify as liberal (41%) or moderate (47%).

- On the issues, this group overwhelmingly supports Biden and Democrats' new economic plan (80% support), they are pro-choice (73%), and they don't think Washington has done enough on gun violence prevention (77%).

2020 Biden Voters Who Disapprove of His Handling of the Economy (12% of audience)

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling the economy? Disapprove, &

Voted for Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election (self-report)

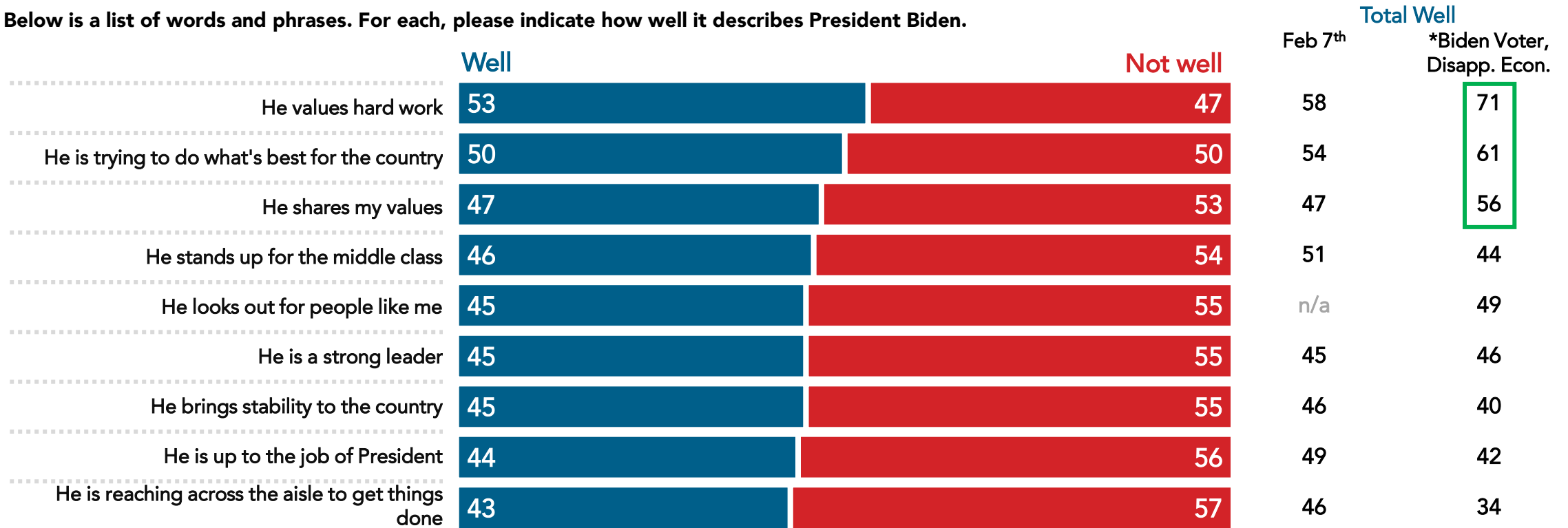


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Americans Believe Biden Values Hard Work, But Most Do Not Believe He Is Reaching Across the Aisle

For those who voted for Biden in 2020 but disapprove of his current handling of the economy, while they feel he “values hard work” (71% describes well), “is trying to do what’s best for the country” (61%), and “shares my values” (56%), fewer say he “stands up for the middle class” (44%) or “is reaching across the aisle to get things done” (34%).

Below is a list of words and phrases. For each, please indicate how well it describes President Biden.



*“Biden voter, disapprove on the economy” are those respondents who self-report voting for Biden in 2020 but say they disapprove of his handling of the economy. This data is from a survey conducted entirely before the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas on May 24th, 2022. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted May 19-May 23, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

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About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Arkadi Gerney, The Hub Project; Joel Payne, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; Mike Podhorzer, AFL-CIO; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted public opinion surveys among a sample of 998 registered voters from May 19-May 23, 2022. 102 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 62 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 105 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 102 additional interviews were conducted among independent voters. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from an opt-in online panel vendor. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables.

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